



House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

BOB INGLIS  
4TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

January 21, 2010

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CEO Eric Schmidt  
Cc: President Sergey Brin  
Cc: President Larry Page  
Google Inc.  
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway  
Mountain View, CA 94043

Dear Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Brin, and Mr. Page,

We write to commend you and your company, Google, for the decision to review your business plan in the People's Republic of China, and specifically for your decision to no longer allow censorship of results on Google's Chinese search engine.

Human rights activists in China struggle in the face of surveillance, intimidation, and routine violations of human rights. The statement made on Tuesday by Google's chief legal officer, David Drummond, is a sad reminder of the struggle that the people of China face.

As you know, Mr. Drummond's statement revealed that Google had detected "a highly sophisticated and targeted attack on our corporate infrastructure originating from China that resulted in the theft of intellectual property from Google," including information from the Gmail accounts of Chinese human rights activists. Whoever is responsible for the attacks, it is alarming to see evidence of additional attempts to violate the privacy of these activists, and such brazen disregard for your company's intellectual property rights.

It is heartening, however, to see that Google, one of the most dynamic and well-regarded companies in the world, has chosen to stand up for its principles and make public its decision that it is no longer willing to censor information as required by the Chinese government. Given China's expanding pool of over 300 million Internet users, we are impressed by Google's apparent willingness to put human dignity and freedom ahead of concerns over market share and quarterly earnings.

Google's Chinese subsidiary has entered an uncertain period in the aftermath of Tuesday's announcement. We applaud the choice that Google has made and offer our

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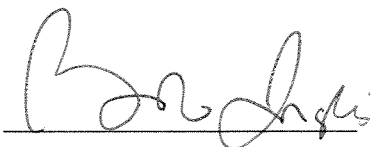
SPARTANBURG, SC  
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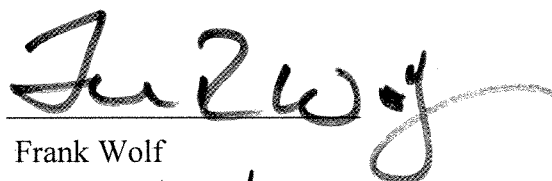
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best wishes to you and to the Chinese people. It is our sincere hope that other companies will follow this example and partner with you in your decision to stand for freedom.


Sincerely,



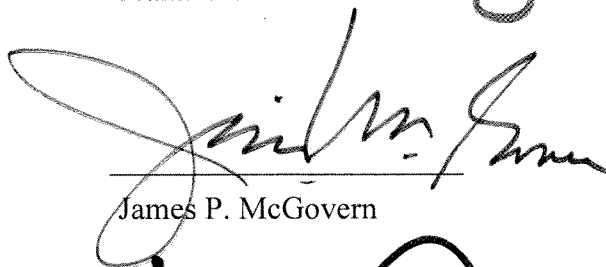
Bob Inglis



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Heath Shuler



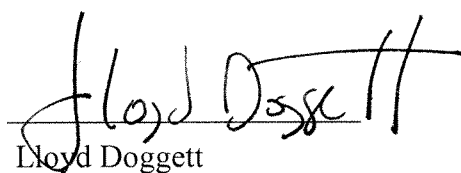
Christopher Smith



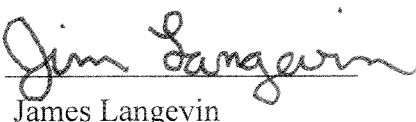
Thaddeus McCotter



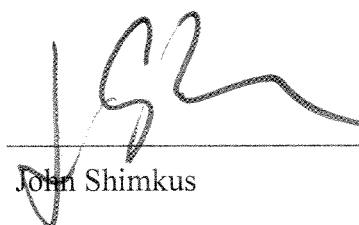
Tim Ryan



Lloyd Doggett



James Langevin



John Shimkus



Loretta Sanchez



Steven Rothman



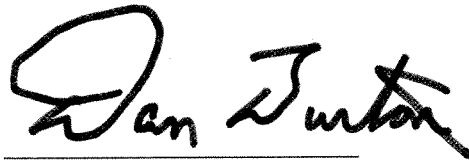
Maxine Waters



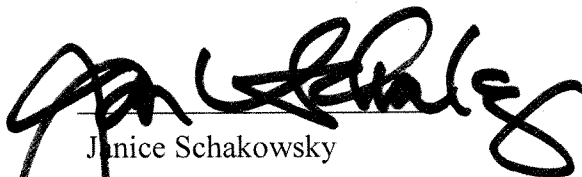
Michael Doyle



Michael McCaul



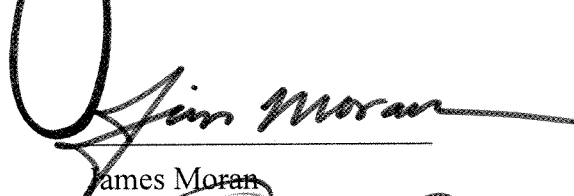
Dan Burton



Janice Schakowsky



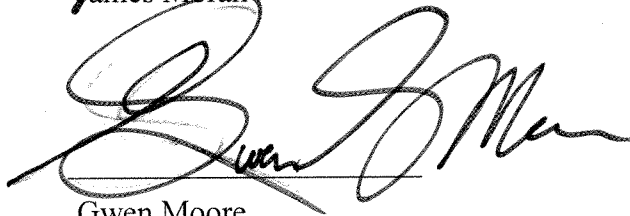
Bill Foster



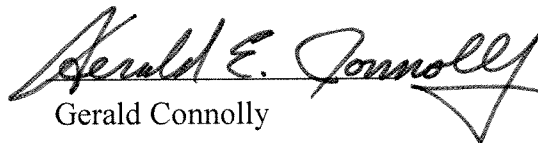
James Moran



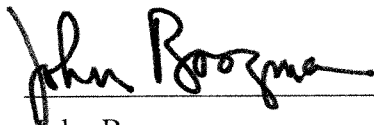
Bill Delahunt



Gwen Moore



Gerald Connolly



John Boozman